



Pandora's Box

by Frank Wedekind (1864 - 1918) Translated by Samuel Atkins Elliot Jr.

Pandora's Box (Die Buchse der Pandora) (1904) is a play by the German dramatist Frank Wedekind. It forms the second part of his pairing of 'Lulu' plays (the first is *Earth Spirit* [1895]), both of which depict a society "riven by the demands of lust and greed". Both plays together also formed the basis for the opera *Lulu* by Alban Berg (1935). Following the events of *Earth Spirit*, *Pandora's Box* charts the downward spiral of Lulu and her companions. Lulu once again plays the role of unwitting temptress, a siren-like libertine who seals the destruction of her friends and lovers. The play begins with Lulu's escape from prison, shows us the formation of a perverse makeshift family unit, and documents the deterioration of her social standing and personal freedom. With an almost fatalistic precision, Wedekind concludes the play with a shocking scene of vice and violence. The premiere of *Pandora's Box*, a restricted performance due to difficulties with the censor, took place in Nuremberg on 1 February 1904. (*Wikipedia*)

Lulu: *Amanda Friday*
 Alva Schon: *Chuck Williamson*
 Schigolch: *Alan Mapstone*
 Rodrigo Quast/Kungu Poti: *Wupperhippo*
 Alfred Hugenberg: *Charlotte Duckett*
 Countess Geschwitz: *Caprisha Page*
 Bianetta/Kadidia: *Sally Mc*
 Ludmilla Steinherz/Narrator: *Elizabeth Klett*
 Magelone: *Margaret Espaillet*
 Count Casti Piani: *Algy Pug*
 Puntschu: *Alan Weyman*
 Heilmann/Dr. Hilti: *bala*
 Bob: *rookieblue*
 Detective: *Grendel B. Lightyear*
 Jack: *Bob Gonzalez*

Audio edited by Chuck Williamson
 Total running time: 2:14:52



Cover design by Kathryn Delaney
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Portrait of the Dancer Alexander Sakharoff, 1909

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